



File

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Robert K. Oram et al

Examiner: Venne, D. V.

Serial Number: 10/552,718

Confirmation No. 6802

Filing Date: 10/26/2006

Art Unit: 3617

For: Buoyancy Clamp And Method Of Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

10/27/2009 EAREGAY1 00000022 10552718

01 FC:1251

130.00 OP

Request for Reconsideration and Extension of Term for Response

Sir,

In response to the Office action mailed July 23, 2009, setting a term for reply of two months, it is requested that the term be extended by one month, from September 23, 2009 to October 23, 2009. A check for \$130 for the extension fee is enclosed.

In the pending Office action, the Examiner objects to the disclosure on the basis that the claim limitation, in allowed claim 14, of "means for tightening the strap" is not fully supported by the specification. It has respectfully submitted that the Examiner is mistaken and that support for the limitation is as follows:

Paragraph 0034 of the specification states that, "Strap 6 is intended in use to be tightened so as to urge the clamp body 2 against the pipe 3 thereby causing the clamp 1 to be mounted firmly to the pipe" (emphasis added). Paragraph 0035 explains that the strap 6 is secured to axis bar terminations 7 which are joined by bolts 8 "which means that less time is required to fasten the clamp to the pipe". Quite clearly, the disclosure in the specification of the axis bar terminations 7 joined by the bolts 8 for urging the clamp against the pipe fully supports the claim limitation of "means for tightening the strap".

Withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure and allowance of the application are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

My file

Michael Y. Epstein,

Reg. No. 21186

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